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of the Norman would have fallen into worse confusion than ever. Roger is the King divinely appointed to repress the wickedness which is native to the Italians and the Lombards, the sword in the hand of God for the punishment of all the crimes, the homicides, the sacrilege, the contempt and plundering of churches which scourged the land from Guiscard's death to his own coming.

From the first his is an amazing career of triumph, from Count to Duke, from Duke to King, till all the land between Rome and Sicily are welded by him into one great kingdom.

Although the governor of a monastic community, Alexander is a whole-hearted partisan of the King against Rome. In describing Roger's assumption of the crown in 1130, he says not a word of Anacle-ttis's investing him in the kingdom; earlier he speaks of the *insolentia* of Honorius II.

At times Alexander rises to a heroic strain, as in his account of the battle of Scafati or Nocera, to which he devotes four chapters. Twice he saw the King with his own eyes, once after the reconciliation of Roger and Rainulf at Lauro when Roger visited the abbey and was received personally by Alexander, to whom he promised endowments, and again during the siege of Naples.

On the latter occasion both Roger and
Alfonso
visited Telese; the King promised a
gift of land
and laid gifts upon the altar which
Rainulf afterwards tried to secure. Before returning
to Sicily,
Roger was reminded of his promises
and ordered